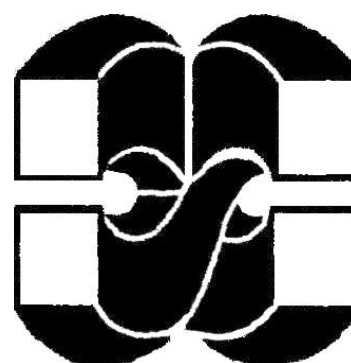


МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ ТЕХНІЧНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ
«ХАРКІВСЬКИЙ ПОЛІТЕХНІЧНИЙ ІНСТИТУТ»

КАФЕДРА ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ

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**Методичні вказівки
з самостійної роботи
курсантів усіх факультетів
ВІТВ НТУ «ХПІ» для
підготовки до СМР-
тестування**



Харків - 2022

Методичні вказівки з самостійної роботи курсантів усіх факультетів ВІТВ НТУ «ХПІ» для підготовки до СМР-тестування / Укладачі: Гармаш С. В., Левін Є. Д., Мох Ю. А. – Харків : НТУ “ХПІ”, 2022. – 57 с.

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ВСТУП

Метою методичних вказівок є розвиток у курсантів усіх факультетів Військового інституту танкових військ НТУ «ХПІ» навичок самостійної роботи для підготовки до мовного тестування відповідно до «Основних засад мовної підготовки особового складу у системі Міністерства оборони України» та набуття практичних навичок роботи за аспектами, за якими проводиться тестування (читання, аудіювання, письмо, мовлення) у межах стандартизованих мовленнєвих рівнів (СМР-1 та СМР-2), що відповідають рівням мовленнєвої компетентності за мовним стандартом НАТО STANAG 6001.

В основу методичних вказівок покладено тести з відкритих джерел для мовного тестування особового складу Збройних Сил України в науковому центрі мовного тестування навчально-наукового центру іноземних мов Національного університету оборони України імені Івана Черняхівського [1; 2].

Оцінка рівня володіння військовослужбовцем України іноземною мовою визначається тестуванням за стандартами STANAG та підтверджується відповідним сертифікатом. «STANAG (Standartization Agreement, Стандарт НАТО) – міжнародний договір, що діє в країнах НАТО та країнах-партнерах. В Україні іспит проводиться відповідно до наказу Міністра оборони України. Успішне складання іспиту свідчить про те, що військовий фахівець володіє іноземною мовою на рівні, достатньому для іншомовного спілкування у певних професійних галузях. Основним методом навчання на курсах підготовки до іспиту є комунікативний метод. Навчання проводиться у межах стандартизованих мовленнєвих рівнів (СМР): СМР 0 (Відсутність практичного вміння); СМР 0+ (Завчений мінімум); СМР 1 (Виживання); СМР 1 + (Виживання +); СМР 2 (Функціональний); СМР 2+ (Функціональний +); СМР 3 (Професійний); СМР 4 (Експертний)» [3].

Структура методичних вказівок. Методичні вказівки складаються з: вступу; тестових завдань за рівнями підготовки з читання, аудіювання (аудіо – за посиланням [2]) (зразок НУОУ з таблицями правильних відповідей та оцінювання), письма, мовлення (зразок НУОУ) [2], корисних приміток з прикладами до цих завдань за рівнями підготовки курсантів (електронний ресурс) [4 - 13]; списку джерел інформації.

Примітки з прикладами до тестових завдань за рівнями підготовки мають на меті підвищити мовленнєвий рівень курсантів при самостійній роботі над тестовими завданнями з можливістю самоконтролю для успішного проходження мовного тестування.

READING TEST
(duration 60 minutes)

LEVEL 1

TASKS 1 – 30

Read 30 texts and answer the questions.

For tasks 1 – 30 write the correct letter A, B, C or D on the answer sheet.

EXAMPLE

Two miles from city center, close to schools and hospitals. Centrally heated house (4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms) with a garden. It is the perfect space for children or pets to play. From 8 January to mid-October. £275 per month. Telephone: Oxford 834152

0 For £275 you can

A buy a house.

Answer C

B sell a house.

C rent a house.

D clean a house.

This is Mary. She is 11. She gets up at 7 o'clock in the morning, has a shower, dresses and has breakfast. Mary's every day morning meal is toast without cheese and coffee, seldom she drinks tea. Then the girl goes to school. She travels by bus. At school she usually has lunch with her friends. They sometimes have pizza and milkshake.

1 For breakfast Mary usually has

A a toast and tea.

B cheese and coffee.

C a toast and coffee.

D cheese and tea.

At the National Zoo in DC, visitors can find all sorts of animals. Lions, tigers, giraffes and the zoo's beloved giant pandas are just some of the 2,000 animals that call the 163-acre park home. The zoo's habitats feature animals from 400 different species and about 25 percent of the zoo's residents are endangered.

2 The total number of animals in the zoo is

A two thousand.

B two hundred.

C twenty five thousand.

D four hundred.

Hello!

Ladies and Gentlemen! Just a quick update on our opening and order times over the bank holiday weekend. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office. We will be closed for the August Bank Holiday on Monday but we shall be open again on Tuesday at 9 a.m. Thank you for shopping with us.

- 3** You can see this sign in
- A** a contact center.
 - B** a bank.
 - C** a shop.
 - D** an office.

Hi David,

My father has given me two tickets to the baseball game tomorrow night. Do you want to come? It starts at 8 p.m. If you can make it, give me a call here at home tonight or early tomorrow. If I don't hear from you by tomorrow morning, I'll understand you can't make it.

Mark

- 4** What does Mark ask David to do?
- A** To play baseball with him.
 - B** To call him at 8 o'clock.
 - C** To come to the game with him.
 - D** To wait for him at home tonight.

On Saturday mornings my husband usually goes shopping and I do the housework. In the afternoon we go for a walk or to an exhibition in the town. On Sundays we usually stay at home and relax. Sometimes my husband goes on business for the weekend and two or three times a year we spend the weekend in another city or another country.

- 5** On weekends the husband seldom
- A** visits other countries.
 - B** goes shopping.
 - C** has time to relax.
 - D** stays at home.

In the south-east it will be sunny with the possibility of showers later in the day. In the north of England, except Scotland, however it will stay cloudy and rainy with temperatures reaching a maximum of 4° C. There will be sunshine and possibly some moderate winds from the Atlantic.

- 6** It may rain
- A** in the North Scotland.
 - B** over the Atlantic.
 - C** in the South-East England.
 - D** in the East Scotland.

«Kids Martial Arts»

Improve fitness, how to stay feet. Teach Goal setting and patience. Leadership skills. Overcome bullying. Give your child the best chance to succeed with our Kids Martial Arts classes. No joining fee. Free uniform on Membership. Parents train for free. Call us: 9364782

- 7 «Kids Martial Arts» is free for
- A parents.
 - B members.
 - C kids.
 - D everyone.

When you travel around the world, it is now more important than ever to make sure you have the right international travel health insurance plan in place in case the unexpected happens. Our Full Travel Package offers comprehensive travel and medical insurance to suit all travelers from children to adults under 85 years of age.

- 8 The Full Travel Package is for
- A for everyone under 85.
 - B only for adult children.
 - C only for adults under 85.
 - D for all travelers.

In London the daytime bus routes and the Tube run until approximately 0030. After this time you can use many Night Bus routes. Most night buses pass through Trafalgar Square and serve hotel and entertainment areas. All Night Bus route numbers have the letter 'N'. Night bus fares are slightly higher than daytime fares.

- 9 All night buses
- A pass through Trafalgar Square.
 - B are more expensive than daytime ones.
 - C start running before midnight.
 - D have the same night route.

Audioworld sells all the latest CDs and music videos online and is good for information about events in the music world. There are detailed lists of concerts and festivals in Europe as well as links to sites selling tickets. Delivery within 48 hours is available on all items for an extra charge. It's possible to listen to selected songs before ordering. It's an attractive, well-presented site that is also user-friendly.

- 10 According to the text, Audioworld
- A is one of the largest online music stores.
 - B gives details about current musical events.
 - C includes biographies of popular musicians.
 - D is the website for an international company.

The world's first corporate university was established by General Electric in 1956. It offered company managers 13-week programs in finance, sales, economics, marketing, public relations and leadership. Today, there are hundreds of corporate universities. Teachers may come from within companies, or include outside trainers and university professors. Corporate universities concentrate on skills that can be used in the workplace.

- 11** The university is for
- A** teachers.
 - B** professors.
 - C** trainers.
 - D** managers.

The day-care center is open to employees' children between the ages of 2 and 5. Starting next Monday, the employees can drop off their youngsters at the day-care center beginning at 7 a.m., and pick them up no later than 6 p.m. The cost is \$20 an hour per child. For those who work part-time, half-day and drop-in options are available.

- 12** The day-care center is for
- A** children under two.
 - B** all children of company workers.
 - C** children over five.
 - D** only children of full-time workers.

Stephen Richardson, studies the lifestyles of young people in Britain and the USA. He says that today many young people live at home when they are 25 or more. They are happy to live with their parents, go out at night, and spend their money on mobile phones and designer clothes. It's not only university students, but also young people who have jobs and earn money.

- 13** The new lifestyle of young people in Britain is
- A** to live with their parents.
 - B** to spend their parents' money.
 - C** to have a good job.
 - D** to earn their own money.

Dear Mr. Kohn, according to our records, we received your order for 300 digital cameras on 24 May. As you know, such orders are usually processed within seven days. Unfortunately, because of an unexpected computer problem, your order was not processed until this morning. The cameras were sent out this afternoon, and they should arrive by the end of the week.

- 14** Customers usually get their orders
- A** during one week.
 - B** during thirty days.
 - C** by the end of the week.
 - D** during one working day.

Glastonbury is a three-day festival that takes place nearly every year at the end of June. The countryside is filled with stages, dance tents, market places and 75000 people. Glastonbury is mainly a music festival. Rock and pop styles are the main attractions, but there is also jazz, reggae, indie and hippy music. There is also a comedy stage, a cinema stage. And those who came to this festival with children can entertain them in a circus at the children's adventure playground.

- 15** Glastonbury
- A** is a British cinema festival.
 - B** offers different music styles.
 - C** takes place at the end of summer.
 - D** takes place in the biggest British cities.

LEVEL 2

Peacekeepers Killed in Lebanon

A car bombing killed six United Nations peacekeepers in southern Lebanon on Sunday. Three Colombian and three Spanish peacekeepers were killed, and two others were also wounded, according to The Associated Press. The soldiers, members of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), died when a car, probably driven by a suicide bomber, exploded near their vehicle in Khiam. No one claimed responsibility for the attack on the peacekeepers, who were deployed along the border with Israel after last summer's war with Hezbollah. The Shia group immediately denied involvement, and laid the blame on the Sunni militant group, which is fighting the Lebanese army in the north. Fighters from the group had threatened to target UNIFIL, which they allege has taken part in military operations against them at the Nahr al-Bared camp – a charge UNIFIL denies.

- 16** According to the news,
- A** the Sunni militant group took the blame for the terrorist attack.
 - B** fighters had threatened to target the Lebanese army in the north.
 - C** the UN peacekeepers have been killed in the car that exploded.
 - D** UNIFIL is accused of conducting attacks against the Sunni group.

Haneef's Case

Dr Mohamed Haneef, an Indian national, was arrested at Brisbane airport on 2 July in connection with a failed London bomb plot. He was held for twelve days before being charged with providing support to a terrorist organization. The doctor detained by the Australian authorities in the wake of terrorist incidents in Glasgow and London has been freed without charge. Dr Mohammed Haneef was arrested at the request of Scotland Yard and accused of providing support to Sabeel Ahmed, one of the two men alleged to have carried out the failed suicide attack at Glasgow airport. But it turns out that one of the prosecution's main claims – that Haneef's phone Sim card was found at the scene of the Glasgow Airport – was false. The Australian police have admitted their mistake, but insist that they were given false information by Scotland Yard.

- 17** According to the news,
- A** Dr Haneef was one of the two men who carried out the attack in Glasgow.
 - B** Scotland Yard falsely accused Dr Haneef of providing support to terrorists.
 - C** Haneef's phone card was found at the crime scene.
 - D** Scotland Yard have admitted their mistake.

A Murder of a French Judge

Recently released documents suggest that France covered up the murder of one of its own judges in Africa 12 years ago. Borrel's body was found at the foot of a ravine 80 kilometres from the town of Djibouti in October 1995. Local police claimed that he had committed suicide, a verdict never accepted by Borrel's widow. Elisabeth Borrel believes her husband was murdered by Djibouti agents and that France helped the Djibouti authorities cover up the crime, which has been officially dismissed as suicide in the Horn of Africa country. It has emerged that the judge was investigating allegations of drugs and arms trafficking involving Ismail Omar Guelleh, the president of Djibouti. According to information leak, the French government hushed up the evidence.

- 18 According to the text,
- A Bernard Borrel was involved in drugs and arms trafficking.
 - B Ismail Omar Guelleh is accused of Bernard Borrel's murder.
 - C Borrel's widow gave evidence against the ex-president in court.
 - D the former French government hid the evidence in the case.

Communications, the Press

Britain has one of the largest publishing industries and is home to some of the oldest newspapers in the world. The Observer and the Times have both been published since the late 18th century. In the past newspaper publishing was concentrated in Fleet Street in London, but the national papers have moved out of Fleet Street. There are ten morning daily newspapers and nine Sunday papers published nationally. In addition, about 1,400 regional and local newspapers and more than 6,500 periodicals are published in the United Kingdom. Britain has one of the highest newspaper readerships of any developed nation: about 60 percent of adult Britons read a national newspaper daily, and about 65 percent buy a Sunday newspaper. Even more Britons read local or regional newspapers.

- 19 According to the text,
- A Britain has the highest newspaper readership.
 - B more than 6,500 people read Sunday newspapers.
 - C over 65% of Britons read local or regional newspapers.
 - D there are about ten national newspapers in the UK.

This week's dream: trekking in Bhutan

Bhutan is one of the most intriguing countries on Earth. A beautiful kingdom in the eastern Himalayas, it was cut off from the rest of the world until the sixties, and 40 years later, it remains cocooned from the modern world. The customs that have grown up in this vacuum are "unusual", to say the least: Bhutan's Buddhist citizens wear "dressing gowns and Argyll socks by law", and archery is the national sport. King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, renowned for his policy of pursuing the nation's "Gross National Happiness", favours ecological sustainability over economic growth, such is his determination to protect the country's unique culture and "pristine" mountainscape. Visitor numbers are limited (there are few inward flights): foreigners must pay a tariff of 200 USD a day and independent trekking is forbidden.

- 20 The Kingdom of Bhutan is a country
- A with continuous economic growth.
 - B with well-developed tourist system.
 - C with ecologically-sound production priorities.
 - D that became open to the world 40 years ago.

Food can be dangerous to your health!

When you go to a restaurant you often think that the food you are ordering is good for you. But many restaurants serve healthy food, like fish or salad, with a sauce or dressing that uses a lot of oil, fat, or sugar. The British Food Standards Agency wants all restaurants to say in their menus exactly what each dish contains, how many calories, how much fat, and what additives. They think that restaurants don't give their customers enough information, and that this new plan could help people to have a healthier diet.

But chefs are not happy with the Agency's plan. One top chef said, "People are not stupid. They know that many sauces have butter and cream in them. But if we put on a menu that a dish has 1,000 calories, nobody is going to order it!"

- 21 The British Food Standards Agency wants restaurants
- A to serve healthier food.
 - B to give customers advice on food.
 - C to minimize the use of fat and additives.
 - D to give more information about their dishes.

Air Attack

An air attack has been carried out on a railway station using 250 and 500 kg mine bombs. The total drop of bombs was 100 of which 10 were unexploded bombs. For unknown reason, the bombs didn't fall only over the target. The bomb area is 100x200 m, which is as large as the inner city of the town. Practically every house in the area has been hit. Some houses are now totally destroyed. Electricity, phone lines and fire hydrants are severely damaged. It is almost impossible to get through the area with vehicles. To make matters worse, the attacker might also have dropped thousands of small mines. These mines might be made of ammunition with a time set firing device or firing device equipped with a sensor that reacts to touch, pressure, sound or other stimuli. Even the slightest movement can cause detonation.

- 22 According to the text,
- A small mines can be detected by a special sensor.
 - B small mines caused more damage than mine bombs.
 - C the suburbs were damaged more than the city center.
 - D the attack involved the use of two types of weapons.

Natural Disasters

Rather than investing in expensive scientific equipment to predict earthquakes, perhaps scientists should spend more time watching their pets.

Many scientists now believe that the behaviour of certain animals could help them to predict certain natural disasters.

Japanese scientists have discovered that catfish become livelier several days before moderately strong earthquakes. Many scientists now accept that this can't be pure coincidence; they believe that the explanation may be linked to slight changes in the Earth's magnetic field. Although human beings can't perceive such changes, it is thought that the sensitive nervous systems of some animals must be affected by them. Now scientists must discover exactly which animals are affected in this way, so that more lives can be saved in the future.

- 23 Japanese scientists have studied
- A the changes of Earth's magnetic field.
 - B the animals' behavior before earthquakes.
 - C the influence of earthquakes on human beings.
 - D the influence of Earth's magnetic field on people.

Stonehenge

The long-discussed plan to build a tunnel under Stonehenge has been shelved, says The Independent. The 2.1km tunnel was intended to relieve the congested A303 that passes close to the famous site. According to the plan the highway will be expanded to four lanes as it approaches Stonehenge, then dip underground in a two-mile-long tunnel that will pass about an eighth of a mile to the south of the stone circle. But with estimated costs soaring to more than half a billion pounds, the Department of Transport felt the whole plan was just too costly. To the relief of environmental campaigners, alternative plans to build a bypass across the Wiltshire plains have also been ruled out owing to “significant environmental constraints”.

- 24 According to the text,
- A Stonehenge tunnel plan failed because it was overpriced.
 - B a tunnel under Stonehenge is ecologically unsustainable.
 - C the Department of Transport supported the Stonehenge tunnel plan.
 - D environmentalists insist on building a bypass across the Wiltshire plains.

Water Buffaloes

When people think of water buffaloes, they often imagine wild and dangerous animals. But unless they are hurt or angered, water buffaloes are probably the gentlest farm animals in the world. Despite their frightening appearance, they are much like household pets. Unlike cattle, they are quiet and have a natural fondness for humans.

Water buffaloes are so patient and mild tempered that there is no need to restrain them during milking. Because of the animal’s calm nature, water buffaloes almost never have their horns removed. In contrast, most dairy cattle are dehorned when they are young to prevent them from injuring one another when they mature.

Another common myth is that water buffaloes can be raised only near water. Though they love to roll in muddy water, water buffaloes live and reproduce normally in situations where there is not enough water to do this.

- 25 According to the author, water buffaloes
- A are often dangerous and wild.
 - B can be easily hurt.
 - C are better household pets than cattle.
 - D are accustomed to dry environment.

Gulf Conflict

Let us look at the background history for Gulf Conflict. Although we tend to call the 1990/91 conflict the Gulf War this was not the first Gulf war in this region. From 1980 to 1988 Iraqi fought a bloody war against its neighbour Iran. In 1980 Iraqi invaded over a border dispute over the ownership of the Shatt Al Arab waterway which borders the two countries. For years Iraqi steadily lost ground against the numerically superior but technologically inferior Iranians. In the 1988 the Iraqis changed tactics and by using chemical weapons, massive artillery bombardments and the Republican Guard it made rapid advances rolling back the Iranians until when the War ended they had gained 500 miles of territory. It was these tactics of chemical and artillery bombardment, which the Coalition forces were expecting during the later Gulf war, and these debts, which were the seeds of that future conflict.

- 26 In the beginning of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict
- A Iranians had an advantage.
 - B the military tactics had been changed.
 - C Iranians used NBC weapons.
 - D Iran lost a lot of territory.

Gulf Conflict

In August 100,000 Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait spearhead by 3 divisions of the Republican Guard. It was well organized with Heli-borne and Amphibious assaults, with Special Forces landing at key sites and ground controllers disguised as civilians going on ahead to direct Armour. The resistance was quickly crushed. The Iraqi leader then made his first big mistake, his forces stopped at the Saudi Arabian border. He had 130,000 men 1,200 tanks and 800 guns against only 72,000 Arabians, if he had invaded it would have provoked a stronger international response but with Arabian airfields and ports in his hands it would have made any liberation very difficult indeed. Maybe he was unable to support his forces logistically? No one knows, but this was possibly his only chance to win the War.

- 27 The Iraqi leader made a mistake when he
- A gave the order to attack Coalition forces.
 - B failed to invade Saudi Arabia.
 - C ignored international response to the invasion.
 - D failed to support his forces logistically.

The U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs

The U.S. Department of veterans' affairs has introduced a program to assist chronically ill or disabled military veterans who can no longer care for themselves. Many of these veterans do not want to move to a traditional nursing home or an assisted-living facility. This program offers them a safe home-like alternative.

The caregivers are members of the community who want to take a veteran into their private home long-term. They provide the veterans with round-the-clock supervision, and personal care including bathing, feeding, and assistance with medication. Veterans pay for room and board, while the government covers the costs of the visits from health-care providers such as nurses, therapists, pharmacists and other professionals.

The program may soon be available for injured troops who cannot live independently, but are too young to move to a nursing home.

- 28 According to the program, the government pays for
- A home care.
 - B specialized care.
 - C nursing home care.
 - D an assisted-living facility.

Some ideas about using vinegar

Articles about using vinegar around the house have been very popular in the past. We now have some new ideas to share with you.

1. The number one job of vinegar these days is ridding your automatic coffee pot of mineral deposits. Run a few cups of vinegar through the coffee-making cycle.
2. Safe, non-toxic vinegar and water make a good cleaner for glass, mirrors, TV screens, and windshields. Mix equal parts of each, use a clean cloth, and dry immediately.
3. Water spots on glasses, as well as tea and coffee stains on cups, disappear when wiped with a vinegar-soaked cloth.
4. Grimy dirt and grease will disappear from the top of the refrigerator and stove when wiped with full strength vinegar.
5. Keep fresh cut flower blooming longer by adding 2 tablespoons of vinegar plus 1 tablespoon of sugar to each quart of warm water. Keep flowers in 3-4 inches of water to allow constant nourishment.

- 29 According to the article, vinegar is used for
- A improving taste of coffee made in coffee machines.
 - B moistening a fabric and cleaning dishes with it.
 - C removing grease by rubbing it hard into the surface.
 - D keeping unpicked plants blooming longer.

Chile's health system case

Chile's health minister said that the country's public health system had failed to notify people that they were infected with HIV. Speaking to lawmakers in Santiago, the health minister, Alvaro Erazo, said that in about half of the cases there was no evidence that anyone tried to reach the patients.

Erazo stated that some of the notification problems resulted from a lack of coordination between the National AIDS Commission and the Health Ministry, and that epidemiological security "was not functioning".

The Central Metropolitan Health Service said that it would open an investigation into the causes of the 107 cases of patients' not being notified under its jurisdiction.

Meanwhile, the government said it was making an intense effort to locate and inform the patients of their status. Erazo vowed it would be done in as confidential manner as possible.

- 30** According to the text,
- A** the country's public health system is not effective in AIDS detection.
 - B** about 50 percent of infected patients' notification failures can be proved.
 - C** the notifications failures disabled the epidemiological system in Chile.
 - D** Erazo criticized the functioning of the epidemiological security system.

THIS IS THE END OF THE READING TEST

**Еталонні відповіді з
ЧИТАННЯ**

LEVEL 1		LEVEL 2	
1.	C	16.	D
2.	A	17.	B
3.	C	18.	D
4.	C	19.	C
5.	A	20.	C
6.	C	21.	D
7.	A	22.	D
8.	A	23.	B
9.	B	24.	A
10.	B	25.	D
11.	D	26.	A
12.	B	27.	B
13.	A	28.	B
14.	A	29.	B
15.	B	30.	D

**Оцінювання відповідей з
ЧИТАННЯ**

Кількість правильних відповідей, (%)	СМР
11-15 (70%-100%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 16-30	2
8-10 (50%-69%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 16-30	1+
11-15 (70%-100%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 1-15	1
8-10 (50%-69%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 1-15	0+
менше 8 (менше 50%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 1-15	0

LISTENING TEST

(duration 45 minutes)

LEVEL 1**TASKS 1 – 30**

- You will hear 30 conversations.
- You will hear each conversation twice.
- There is one task for each conversation.
- For tasks **1-30** write **A, B, C** or **D** on the answer sheet.

EXAMPLE		ANSWER
0	The deadline for the essay is	A October the 18th. B October the 19th. C October the 20th. D October the 28th.

1	Pablo	A is single. B has a girlfriend. C is married. D is from Brazil.
----------	-------	---

2	A man is	A eating lunch. B checking the time. C waiting near the post-office. D looking through the window.
----------	----------	---

3	A man and a woman are	A dating. B married. C coming to the table. D looking for the waitress.
----------	-----------------------	--

4	The man says he had a lot of problems	A at home. B at school. C with friends. D with teachers.
----------	---------------------------------------	---

- 5 When does the bus get back?
- A At 9.00
 - B At 20.00
 - C At 20.30
 - D At 21.30

- 6 A man ordered
- A juice and a beef sandwich.
 - B tea with milk and sugar.
 - C a cheese sandwich and coffee.
 - D white coffee and sugar.

- 7 A woman needs money because
- A her wallet was stolen.
 - B she wants to buy some books.
 - C she lost her wallet.
 - D she wants to pay for the taxi.

- 8 A woman needs to get to
- A a restroom.
 - B an airport.
 - C a store.
 - D a street crossing.

- 9 A man decided to exchange his shoes for
- A any item of lower price.
 - B black shoes of the same style.
 - C blue shoes of the same style.
 - D any item of higher price.

- 10 The only thing she hated about English class was
- A making book reports.
 - B making news reports.
 - C writing essays.
 - D reading books.

- 11** On vacation the man prefers
- A** sitting on the beach.
 - B** swimming in the pool.
 - C** taking adventurous activities.
 - D** having relaxation.

- 12** Mr. Moody works
- A** in the daytime.
 - B** as a bank clerk.
 - C** on Saturdays.
 - D** at night.

- 13** If you know the competition answer you should ring
- A** 0801397422
 - B** 0108937224
 - C** 0018937224
 - D** 0018739242

- 14** They keep newspapers on
- A** the ground floor.
 - B** the first floor.
 - C** the second floor.
 - D** the top floor.

- 15** The speaker was teaching English in
- A** Germany.
 - B** California.
 - C** San Francisco.
 - D** Washington DC.

LEVEL 2

- 16 *According to the speaker,*
- A eating makes people delighted and joyful.
 - B he suffered from an eating disorder.
 - C he has had stomach problems since childhood.
 - D his mother was happy that he ate a lot.

- 17 *The man thinks athletes*
- A should invest their money.
 - B make easy money.
 - C manage their money poorly.
 - D should share their money.

- 18 Buy Nothing Day is
- A a day to get a new credit card.
 - B a special day for holiday shopping.
 - C a protest against excessive shopping.
 - D a world consumer rights day.

- 19 The woman needed this job
- A to become a well-to-do person.
 - B to take riding lessons.
 - C to become financially independent.
 - D to be free half of a day.

- 20 The speaker regrets
- A having careless life in Canada.
 - B having wasted time in Spain.
 - C coming back to Canada.
 - D having lived in Spain.

- 21 The woman
- A hit the spider with a shoe.
 - B screamed from pain.
 - C was more scared than hurt.
 - D checked her shoe.

- 22 According to the speaker, he doesn't want to be transferred to
- A France.
 - B Ukraine.
 - C Italy.
 - D Russia.

23 Joyce's husband

- A had a heart attack.
- B has high blood pressure.
- C is under stress.
- D often collapses at work.

24 According to the speaker,

- A car crashes are the main cause of teens' deaths.
- B accidents occur mostly due to a lack of experience.
- C 75 percent of car accidents lead to death.
- D icons and charms provide security while driving.

25 The woman said that

- A using casual language with doctors is the best way.
- B relations between doctors and nurses may influence their work.
- C doctors always tell how they want the nurses to act.
- D some doctors want nurses to be professional, others to be casual.

26 According to the news,

- A one politician still remains in subhuman conditions.
- B the hostages were kept in tolerable conditions.
- C the released hostages are in poor condition.
- D all former politicians have been released.

27 According to the news,

- A the total sum of the project comes up to € 35 mil for each country.
- B the EU members will have to spend € 20 mil to equip themselves.
- C the EU members will need € 6 mil a year to run the system.
- D it will cost EU members € 27 mil to install the system.

28 According to the news,

- A the country suffers from lack of humanitarian aid.
- B the authorities fear the approach of wet season.
- C the officials ask for support from the UN.
- D the rate of tropical disease is relatively low.

29 French government is drafting new legislation on

- A** training certain types of dogs.
- B** banning of certain types of dogs.
- C** certification of all types of dogs.
- D** registration of all types of dogs.

30 The Swiss government is going to

- A** forbid to keep firearms in private homes.
- B** introduce new type of military ammunition.
- C** reduce the number of military personnel.
- D** change the rules of ammunition storage.

THIS IS THE END OF THE LISTENING TEST

**Еталонні відповіді з
АУДІЮВАННЯ**

LEVEL 1		LEVEL 2	
1.	A	16.	A
2.	B	17.	D
3.	A	18.	C
4.	A	19.	B
5.	C	20.	C
6.	A	21.	C
7.	C	22.	D
8.	B	23.	B
9.	C	24.	A
10.	A	25.	D
11.	C	26.	A
12.	D	27.	C
13.	C	28.	B
14.	D	29.	B
15.	A	30.	D

**Оцінювання відповідей з
АУДІЮВАННЯ**

Кількість правильних відповідей, (%)	СМР
11-15 (70%-100%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 16-30	2
8-10 (50%-69%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 16-30	1+
11-15 (70%-100%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 1-15	1
8-10 (50%-69%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 1-15	0+
менше 8 (менше 50%) правильних відповідей на ТЗ 1-15	0

WRITING TEST
(duration 40 minutes)

LEVEL 1

A friend of yours invited you to his/her birthday party, but you can't go.

Write an e-mail where you:

- congratulate him/her on his/her birthday
- apologize and explain why you can't come
- ask about getting together another day.

Write 40 – 50 words

LEVEL 2

You are an officer of the department responsible for organizing an international conference. A participant group from Lithuania is requesting details. Write your answer to the contact person from Lithuania and mention:

- requirements for participants
- topic and content of their presentation
- cultural program
- accommodation and meals.

Write 180 – 220 words

USEFUL NOTES

LEVEL 1

Apology Letter [4]

Dear Brian,

I'm really sorry that I couldn't be at your birthday party. I know that you might be angry with this now.

My mom, had a stroke just before I was going out to be at the party. I had to take her to the hospital and stay all the night there, that why I had forgotten to make a call to let you know about. Today we took her from hospital and got her back to the home. Thanks God, she's now getting better, Doctors told me that they are optimistic about her recovery.

Now I'd like to invite you to have a meal, on Friday, at a very lovely restaurant, close to our home. Honestly, my mom asked me to join us, as she feels that her illness spoiled the time we could get together, and should do something to make up for this.

Sorry again and hope we can have all that good days again.

Regards,
Reza

Posted by: reza.tr | February 08, 2015 at 19:27

Dear Simon,

Hope you enjoyed your birthday celebration last Friday!

The purpose of this letter is to apologize for my absence without informing you.

It happened on last Friday. I got an unexpected and excited call from my sister, who is living in Australia with her husband, for visiting her due to my niece's birth with three day early than expected. So I booked the flight tickets with my parents immediately and went to airport with only several hours left before the flight departed. When we arrived at the airport, our flight was checking on board, which left me no time to think about other important things. After I sat on my seat, your birthday invitation came to my mind. But the plane was ready to take off with all mobile phones required to be switched off under the air traffic regulations. So I couldn't call you to explain this at that moment. After 11-hour flight journey, we arrived at our destination. I tried to reach you to explain why I didn't turn up your party. However, my phone was out of work due to its service was out of boundary. Hope you can understand that I didn't turn up your party.

Next Monday, I will fly back to China to invite you for a dinner with some valuable gifts such as Kangaroo belt for you to show my sorry for my absence.

Regards,
Paul

Posted by: paul | February 09, 2015 at 00:07

Dear Sujana,

I hope you enjoyed your birthday party last week but I am really sorry that I could not attend your party though I had really wished to be with you on that day.

You know I have been working on my science project since last two months really hard. This project has made me experience a lot for developing my professional career. I had made a day

off on your birthday to celebrate with you on your party but apparently, something went wrong with my robot on the same day and I had to call all of my group members to study what was happening. All of us were really busy to fix this issue as our project deadline was just two days remaining.

I am organizing a small gathering on my house next week. I would like to invite you and your family to attend to this gathering if you forgive me.

Regards,
Prateek Shrestha

Posted by: Prateek Shrestha | February 09, 2015 at 03:48

Hi Brian,

How are you doing? Hope you are fine. I'm writing to say sorry mate! I don't want to make an excuse but let me explain why I couldn't be at your party.

At the time when I was driving out, I found out that someone had a double-parked and blocked me in. I waited on and on but no one turned up, then I had to take a taxi heading your home, the traffic was murder and cars had to drive at the snail's pace. But what it made it worse was that the driver went in the wrong direction and I found myself in the middle of nowhere, no coverage phone, as I tried several times to make a call but failed. Then we forced to get back home, but that was too late that, thought would be annoying to call you. Now I'd like to invite you a meal out of the town, at the very lovely restaurant to make up for this.

Hope you won't let me down and take it as a gift.

All the best
Reza

Posted by: Reza.tr | February 10, 2015 at 14:47

Dear Richard,

It has been a while since we last met at the graduation ceremony, and you invited me to your birthday on last Wednesday.

Hope you enjoyed your day. I am writing to apologize for not attending your birthday.

I had put your date of birth on my smartphone to remind me. However, I lost my phone on Sunday before that when I went clubbing with my workmates. Thus, until now I have not updated and obtained all information on my new phone.

By the way, there is a gathering dinner at my house on this weekend. I would like to invite you to take a part in our dinner since we will celebrate your birthday again as well as the coming Chinese New Year.

Looking forward to your reply.

Regards.

Anthony.

Posted by: Phong | February 13, 2015 at 13:42

Hi Candy,

To begin with please accept my sincere apologies for not attending your birthday party. I absolutely know the importance that you give to such a special day. Let me explain why I was not able to be there and how I am going to make it up for you.

On Saturday afternoon, I went to downtown to buy you a birthday present and was planning to come to your place right away. I had my time to visit many shops and finally picked up one gigantic teddy bear for you as a gift. I thought it will not be that difficult to carry it to my car and unfortunately I was wrong. After snowy weather last week, all the sidewalks were iced as you know. I slid and fell right on to the teddy bear and hit my head to a tree. When I was awake it was Sunday afternoon.

The good news is I have no injuries or serious health issues according to my doctors. The bad news is I can not say the same thing for the teddy bear. I promise when they release me I will organise a joint party for my recovery and your birthday.

I apologise again for missing your birthday celebration party and hope to see you soon on a sunny day :)

Cheers,
Alp

Posted by: Alp | February 21, 2015 at 03:17

Dear Joan,

How are you? How is your study going on? Last Monday was your birthday & hope you enjoyed the party. I am sure you are very angry with me because I was not there. I am very very sorry for this my friend.

Now I am telling you the reason of my absence. One of my cousins, who lives in New York, gave me a call on last Sunday that she was on the way to visit us. She requested me to receive her in airport on Monday at 4:00 p.m. I could not say 'no' to her because she has come after 10 years and she is not only my cousin, but also my childhood friend. So I was compelled to go to the airport with my parents and we reached home at 8:00 p.m. For this reason I could not attend your birthday party.

Now I am inviting you on next Friday at our home because we are going to organize a dinner party where you can meet my cousin. Please try to take a part there.

I am sorry again for missing your party. Hope you will not miss my party. Take care.

Regards,
Clara

Posted by: Clara Rakhi Gomes | March 29, 2015 at 14:20

Dear Mark,

Hope you have an enjoyable birthday and please allow me to apologise for my absence on your birthday party. It was very depressed for me as well that I could not attend the important event, so sad!

All should be blamed was the unexpectedly urgent meeting when i was on the way to your home. I assumed that it should be finished soon, on the contrary, many issues were discussed and tons of arguments were made. Worse was that i need recorded all minutes down and sent them out

immediately once the meeting finished. I was so pushed that even no time allowed to give you a call.

May I have your honour this time to organise another big dinner with our guys to celebrate your birthday. I will take my gift for your birthday and this time I promise that I will not miss the party anyway. I am looking forward your prompt response.

Best Regards,
AA.

Posted by: Dylan | July 22, 2015 at 11:33

Dear Shah,

Hope you find this letter with good health and the reason to write this letter is to apologise for my absence on your birthday party.

You know I have started my new software business and on last Friday there was a deadline of one of the project and I could not finish that by deadline so the client were annoyed and given me 2 days more so I did hard to finish that task. This project not given me time to think about other important work.

I want to compensate my biggest mistake so I would like to arrange a party at my home and I want to invite you and your family.

Best Regards,

Umm

Posted by: umair subhani | September 29, 2015 at 09:13

Dear Allier,

I hope you find my letter in better health.

I apologize for missing your birthday party. I was looking through some of the event's pictures online and I must say you had a fabulous birthday party this year. I could have met Jane, Sally and Pratica as all of them were present on this our annual reunion. I had bought an amazing gift for your birthday present but at last moment I had to fly to Sinkiari for an emergency business meeting. It was so urgent that even I forget to give you a call before leaving.

I would like to invite you and your wife on dinner to compensate this. Let me know what your choice is, although I know what you will choose, and which day works best for you. I would like to present your wonderful gift to you as well.

Please let me know in advance if you want me to present something on your birthday. See you soon,

Haseeb

Posted by: Haseeb | November 23, 2015 at 06:57

Dear Maya,

First of all, i would like to sincerely apologize for not being able to fulfill your birthday invitation. I really hope that you enjoyed the party.

I know that you might be upset due to my absence then i will explain the reason why I can't make to your party. I had an emergency situation last week that my mother had me deliver her to hospital for she had fever for days and not seemed getting better. Then I spent that day accompanied her in emergency room. Unfortunately my phone was running out of battery so I couldn't call you.

Next weekend,i would be happy if you can go out with me for meals in your favorite restaurant, I will pick you up and treat you as well to make up my mistake. I wish you will accept my apologies and my invitation.

With love,

Danisa

Posted by: Danisa | November 26, 2015 at 15:32

Dear Olivier,

I am writing to apologize for the absence of your birthday party. But I hope you had an enjoyable and wonderful one.

Let me explain the reason that I was not appear your party. One of my workmate got serious malaria and the doctor suggested us taking him to my country for treatment. You know it was my responsibility to look after my workmate and accompany him on the plane.

Now my colleague is turning better and I shall be back next week. I have got time to go shopping and choose one for you as the birthday gift. So may I have your honor to invite you to have a gathering the second day after I am back.

Again, sorry to miss your party. I look forward to your reply.

Joy

Posted by: Joy | April 06, 2016 at 03:35

SOME HINTS

LEVEL 2

Planning an International Conference [5]

With international collaboration becoming more common, many event planners will be expected to organise at least one international event during their career.

People attend conferences because they want to learn and network, but those that travel to international conferences also do so for the experience. For this reason, international attendees often have higher expectations of the event itself.

This guide looks at the best ways to boost international attendance of your events and the main considerations that need to be managed during the event planning stage.

Ways to boost international attendance

Having international attendees is a great selling point for your event. It provides delegates the opportunity to network with experts outside of their normal circles. Here are our tips on attracting the right people from overseas and boosting international ticket sales.

Start promoting as soon as you can

Every event professional knows that the sooner you start organising an event the better. This is particularly true when organising international events. With so much to consider, we recommend starting planning as early as 18 months before the event itself.

Pick your speakers carefully

Conference speakers need to be of the highest calibre in order to attract attendees from abroad. Look at market trends in your target countries and find related topics that would interest a wide number of attendees. You should also consider an international speaker. Especially one that is very well-known within the field.

Promote the international aspect

Make sure you promote the fact that your conference or event is international. It's a great selling point and also a compelling nudge for international delegates debating whether or not to attend.

Make the schedule worth their while

Think about why people would attend an international conference overseas and include this within your marketing. At the very least, ensure there are lots of different seminar streams to choose from, dedicated networking time and scheduled pre or post event drinks.

Cross-promote

Link up with another related international event in another country and cross-promote each other's events. It's a great way to reach the right audience, as well as experience an international conference from the perspective of an international attendee.

Don't send blanket email invites

Data is your most valuable tool so treat it well. Segment your data lists and speak to different countries specifically. If possible include some information in their native language.

Considerations when hosting events with international attendees

When it comes to planning events targeted towards international attendees, there are a number of considerations that you need to take into account, many of which you may not have thought of.

Venue

It goes without saying that the event venue for your conference should be easily accessible from major transport links such as train stations and airports. This is a major consideration for all attendees, but particularly for international delegates.

Ensure the venue has enough space for your scheduled talks, as well as breakout spaces so attendees can network during breaks. You also want to ensure there is designated space for people to observe any religious practices.

Catering

Brady Miller, director of special and academic events at Indiana University has the following suggestion when it comes to international event catering:

“Food choices may be heavily influenced by the demographics of your attendees. If many attendees are coming from say, India, one might assume that a majority of them will be Hindus (more than 80% of Indians are).

Consequently, it would be a smarter to avoid beef as the major protein in most meals you may be providing, and you may want to have a larger number of vegetarian meals on hand than a caterer's standard recommendation."

Buffets are recommended for international events so that attendees can pick and choose what they want to eat. Because of this, everything needs to be clearly labelled and catering staff should be on hand to answer any questions.

Décor

In the case of décor for international events, the key is to keep it simple. Use seating, lighting and branded visuals to decorate the event space rather than props and accessories.

Brady Miller warns, "Many nationalities have particular affiliations with certain flowers. Chrysanthemums are a good example. Depending on where you are in the world, these flowers could be associated either with happiness or nobility or could be associated almost exclusively with death or funerals (many places in Europe). Something as simple as a white lily will have hugely different meanings with different audiences."

Language and translation

Although English is the usual common-language for international events and conferences, it is important that multi-lingual translators are on hand to ensure that all attendees get the most from the conference. Arrange for translators to be stationed at identifiable points throughout the venue such as the foyer, breakout space and the entrances to large seminar rooms.

When it comes to signage, consider the most common term for the area. For example, signs for the toilet should say WC as this is more international.

Pre-event info

- A welcome letter – in a few of the major languages that will be attending would be comforting to your guests
- How to get to the venue from different places
- Recommended places to stay – negotiate a reduced room rate at a nearby hotel
- Include nearby attractions that attendees may wish to visit during their stay

Scheduling

Planning an international conference schedule is an art. As previously discussed, you need to ensure that there are different seminar streams for attendees.

This ensures that they have access to a wide range of information throughout the day.

Ensure there is a good mix between conference talks and networking opportunities. This will give attendees the golden opportunity to network with those outside their normal circles, as well as give them the break they need.

If your event takes place over a number of days, ensure that there is time for international attendees to explore the city they are visiting. Remember, attending an international event is as much about the experience of the city as the conference itself.

Be accommodating

If you know that some attendees have cultural requirements, such as prayer times or religious holidays, accommodate their needs into your schedule. There's no point scheduling an international conference on Whit Monday where many Christian countries observe a bank holiday.

Supplies

We all forget things and if your conference is only one or two days long, it's likely that attendees will only bring hand luggage. This means that some of the essentials may have been left behind. Offer a stock of pens, pencils and notepads on arrival. Even better, consider giving away these items in branded goodie bags.

Celebrate international attendees

Celebrate international attendees and make this a focus of your event. Mention those that have travelled and thank them in the conference's opening address. You could even have a board with a map so people can pin where they have come from for the event.

Ultimately, the key to organising international events is to understand your audience. Do some research into cultural practices from different countries and religions. And always do your best with the time and budget you have been given by your client.

SPEAKING TEST SAMPLE**SET 1**

Please, introduce yourself. Tell us your name, your surname.

What is your rank and position?

Thank you.

Warm up

First of all we would like to know something about you.

Where are you from?

Where is your hometown located?

What places of interest are there in your hometown?

LEVEL 1

1. Where do you work? Tell us about your working day.

2. Do you have a friend? What does your friend look like?

3. Do you like watching films? Tell us about your favourite film.

LEVEL 2

1. Do you live in a flat or in a private house? Describe a place where you live.

2. Compare living in a flat with living in a private house.

3. What countries have you visited in your life? Tell us about your last trip.

4. How will you spend your free time next weekend?

Wind down

This is the end of your speaking test. Thank you for your answers.

What are you going to do after the test?

SET 2

Please, introduce yourself. Tell us your name, your surname.

What is your rank and position?

Thank you.

Warm up

First of all we would like to know something about you.

Do you have a family?

Tell us about your wife / husband / children / parents.

How does/do she/he /they look like?

LEVEL 1

1. What is your position? What are your responsibilities?
2. Tell us about your hobby. What do you like doing in your free time?
3. What family traditions do you have?

LEVEL 2

1. What do you do to keep fit?
2. Compare different means of traveling.
3. What are the most important problems of the town you live in?
4. How are you going to spend your next vacation?

Wind down

This is the end of your speaking test. Thank you for your answers.

What are you going to do after the test?

SET 3

Please, introduce yourself. Tell us your name, your surname.

What is your rank and position?

Thank you.

Warm up

First of all we would like to know something about you.

Where do you work?

What is your position?

What do you like about your job?

LEVEL 1

1. What is your favourite season of the year? What do you like to do when the weather is warm/cold?
2. Describe your home.
3. Tell us about the most popular holiday in our country.

LEVEL 2

1. When and where do you usually go shopping? Compare shopping in a store with buying things online.
2. Tell us about your language learning experience.
3. Do you like traveling? Tell us about your last trip.
4. How will the knowledge of English help you in the future?

Wind down

This is the end of your speaking test. Thank you for your answers.

What are you going to do after the test?

USEFUL NOTES

SET 1

15 Best Things to Do in Kharkiv (Ukraine) [6]

Ukraine's second city is in the east of the country in the region of the same name. Internationally Kharkiv is associated with manufacturing and commerce, a reputation that has persisted since it was the third-largest centre of industry in the USSR. As for tourism, Kharkiv was never directly affected by the recent conflict in eastern Ukraine, and life has returned to normal.

Something handy about the city centre is that all the landmarks and attractions are on or near the main artery, Sumska Street. You'll be able to walk to nearly everything on this list, from impressive Soviet-era squares to a whole roll-call of kid friendly outings like the action-packed Maxim Gorky Park and the Nemo Dolphinarium.

Let's explore the best things to do in Kharkiv:

1. Maxim Gorky Park

A few minutes up from the centre is a 130-hectare park that has a few days out rolled into one.

First it's a sophisticated and well-maintained city garden, laced with tree-lined avenues, expansive lawns, ponds sculptures, a gazebo and a Temple of Diana.

But there are also plenty of family-oriented amusements.

The park has a Ferris wheel that dominates the skyline and has a far-reaching view of the city, along with an aerial ropeway, carousels, a haunted house and even a roller coaster.

Everything is sheltered in clean woodland and during the summer holidays there are live shows for kids on the stage.

2. Annunciation Cathedral

By the Lopan River, Kharkiv's Neo-Byzantine Annunciation Cathedral is enormous, and when it was constructed in the late 19th century it was one of the largest churches in the Russian Empire.

The tallest structure is the bell tower, which crests at 80 metres and was completed in 1888, 12 years before the church was consecrated.

Outside, note the candy-stripe effect of the classic Byzantine rings of red bricks and white stone.

The interior has a capacity for 4,000 worshippers, and a couple of the things to search out are the seated image of Athanasius of Alexandria in the south aisle and the iconostasis made from white Carrara marble.

3. Taras Shevchenko Gardens

This grand park at the very centre of the city has a web of paths and alleys, edged by towering oaks and delivering you to fountains and sculptures.

The most striking of these is the monument to Taras Shevchenko next to Sumska Street.

Of the hundreds of monuments for the 19th-century poet who laid the foundations for the modern Ukrainian language, this one, dating to 1935, is considered to be the finest.

Despite its size it took only one year to sculpt, and famous actors from Kharkiv's Berezil Theatre posed as characters from Shevchenko's works.

Strolling around the park you'll note the size and age of the oak trees: They are the remnants of an oak forest that protected the northern approach to the Kharkiv fortress in the 17th century.

4. Mirror Stream Fountain

Across the way from Kharkiv Philharmonic on Sumska Street, this fountain was erected in 1947 to commemorate the Soviet victory in the Second World War.

If you're wondering how a Soviet-era war monument could have such a romantic design, there's a long back-story to explain it.

At the time the Secretary of the regional communist party had a long-term unrequited love: After the war he sent her on holiday to the Russian resort of Kislovodsk.

In a letter she sent a photo back of a gazebo in Kislovodsk that she had taken a shine to.

So when the time came for Kharkiv to build a war monument he tried to recreate that sight for her.

Needless to say, this didn't go down very well, and the official disappeared soon after but the monument is still there.

Come by at night when it's illuminated.

5. Freedom Square

Bordering Taras Shevchenko Gardens to the north is the eight-largest city square in Europe.

Freedom Square covers 12 whole hectares, and is up to 750 metres long and 125 metres across.

One reason there's an absence of a monuments is because its statue of Lenin was torn down by protesters in 2014. No charges were brought, and the statue won't be rebuilt; instead there's going to a new 86-metre column, with an angel and orthodox cross, watching over famous figures from the history of Sloboda Ukraine (Kharkiv's historical region).

6. Derzhprom

You don't have to be an architecture student to be wowed by the Constructivist Derzhprom (State Industry) complex that banks up on the west side of Freedom Square.

When it was completed in the 1920s it became the largest building by floor area in the world, usurped only by New York's skyscrapers.

Made from concrete and comprising a number of overhead walkways, it's one of those buildings that requires you to step back to appreciate both its size and the fact that it is completely symmetrical.

The Derzhprom has 45,000 windows and 17 hectares of glazing.

It came through the Second World War relatively unscathed thanks to its reinforced concrete frame.

7. Kharkiv Fine Arts Museum

Just the ticket for a rainy day, the city's art museum is central, between the Mirror Stream Fountain and the Lovebirds Monument.

The venue is a Neoclassical mansion from 1913, but the collection goes back to the start of the 19th century when Kharkiv University purchased a variety of works by European masters like van Dyck and Albrecht Dürer.

The museum took damage in the Second World War, but its most valuable pieces had already been placed in safe storage.

These include masterpieces by Russian artists like the Romantic, Ivan Aivazovsky, the Modernist Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin, and the Realist Ilya Repin.

The museum has a version of Repin's famed Reply of the Zaporozhian Cossacks, which he painted while working on the original.

8. Assumption Cathedral

Raised in the 1770s, this eye-catching golden-domed church blends Baroque and Neoclassical architecture.

It was Kharkiv's main Orthodox place of worship until the construction of the Annunciation Cathedral at the end of the 19th century.

Unfortunately the cathedral was gutted by the Soviet authorities in the 1930s, but has been restored in stages since the 70s.

The gilded iconostasis is believed to have been the work of the famed Italian architect Bartolomeo Rastrelli.

The cathedral's separate Neoclassical bell tower measures 90 metres in height and was Kharkiv's tallest building until the 21st century.

This was built after the Napoleon's retreat as a symbol of gratitude to Tsar Alexander I.

9. Constitution Square

With a little more life than Freedom Square, this plaza is roughly where the Kharkiv Fortress used to stand in the 18th century and is a place for public gatherings.

The square is bounded by some 200 years of architecture and the variety of styles reflects the varying age of these buildings.

Where Moskovsky Avenue joins the square there's a fine four-storey mansion constructed for clergy visiting the Assumption Cathedral.

A few steps from the city's historical museum is the Freedom Monument, which is newer than its classical design makes it seem, and was unveiled only in 2012. Also keep an eye out for the giant thermometer above the entrance to the metro station on the north side, and the majestic Neo-Baroque facade of the Kharkiv State Motor Transport College beside it.

10. Kharkiv Historical Museum

This museum, stranded on Constitutional Square has a slightly odd position as it seems to be facing in the wrong direction, fronting Universytetska Street instead of the plaza.

You'll know the museum by its glass facade, and historic cannons and tanks guarding the entrance.

One of these is a British-made Mark V, dating to 1918 and captured by Soviets in the Ukrainian War of Independence in 1919. Holding 300,000 exhibits, the museum is one of the largest in its field in Ukraine and in the collection are weapons, medals, coins, uniforms, paintings and photographs, all with a focus on the War of Independence (1917-1922) and the Second World War (Great Patriotic War).

11. Pokrovsky Cathedral (Holy Shroud Monastery)

Through the gates on the west side of Constitution Square hides the beautiful Pokrovsky Cathedral, the Ukrainian national monument and the oldest surviving building in the city.

Dating to 1689, the cathedral is a fusion of Cossack's Baroque and Neo-Byzantine design, and is integrated into a complex that also has a seminary and episcopal palace.

When the monastery was founded in the 17th century it was part of the city's fortifications, which might explain the stern appearance of the bell tower.

The inside is highly ornate, and every surface is adorned with frescos.

As a male monastery this site has strict rules on about "female modesty", but the good news is there's a rack of free headscarves by the entrance.

12. Botanical Garden

That aerial ropeway in Gorky Park will lift you over Novhorodska Street to the city's botanical garden.

Not to be confused with the botanical garden on the west side of Taras Shevchenko Gardens, this garden is run by the University of Kharkov.

Dating back to 1804, it's the oldest botanical Garden in Ukraine and has more than 2,000 species of flowering plants, 1,000 varieties of trees and shrubs, as well as tropical and subtropical plants numbering 3,000 taxons.

The garden plays a big role in botanical conservation, containing 15 plant species that are on the European Red List.

Step into the greenhouse, where there's plant life from five different climate zones, and stroll the arboretum, laid out according to geographical origin.

13. Children's Railway

Every May and September you can do something in Kharkiv that you've probably never done before: Ride a train operated solely by children.

Well, not quite children, but teenagers.

"Children's Railways" are a tradition that go back to Soviet times and filled a practical role in the 20th century, helping to train upcoming generations of railway engineers and conductors.

Kharkiv's narrow gauge line was created in 1940 and runs north from the Maxim Gorky Park into woodland next to Sumska Street.

Youngsters are responsible for the most minute details, from coupling the carriages to selling tickets and driving the engine.

14. Kharkiv Zoo

The city's zoo suffered after the political crisis in 2014, and is currently going through needed modernisation.

At the time of writing it is scheduled to reopen in 2018 so if you're in the city you should definitely keep it in mind.

Dating back to 1896, the zoo is the oldest in Ukraine and is on the southern edge of Freedom Square.

Considering it's located in the centre of the city Kharkiv Zoo covers a sizeable area, at 22 hectares.

Before its hiatus in 2017 it had more than 6,800 animals representing 385 species.

15. Nemo Dolphinarium

Open every day except Mondays, the city's dolphinarium is on the western edge of Taras Shevchenko Gardens.

Here Nemo's three dolphins perform choreographed tricks and interact with their handler in time to music.

This is all preceded by a show with a sea lion.

Children up to the of five have free entry, while if you're willing to pay extra you can even put on a wetsuit and go scuba diving with these smart mammals.

LEVEL 1

My favorite movie (essay) [7]

I love watching movies so I go to the cinema every week and it is the weekend, and my favorite film which I enjoy when I watch it is Science fiction film, because science fiction films develop a person's thinking, and I usually like to go to the movies with my friends.

While my sister's favorite film is romantic, she likes romantic films that talk about emotional problems. My sister loves these films because she knows many of the problems of teenagers and how to deal with these problems and identify the correct ways to solve emotional problems.

My mother's favorite film is the social film. She likes to watch social films because these films present special problems for the family and the relationship of the husband to his wife, as well as the father's relationship with the sons and the relationship of the children with each other, and also the problems of adolescents and the role of both the family and the school in solving these problems Related to drug use, and other things that harm the health and psychological health of young people.

My father's favorite film is the historical film. My father loves historical films because we know the important historical events of previous years and the effects of these events on humanity, especially films dealing with wars such as World War I and World War II.

My favorite movie essay

Undoubtedly, there are many of my favorite famous films that are shown a lot on the cinema screen or on TV. But there is only one movie shown every year on New Year's Eve that is beloved by all of us and we cannot get bored of it and it is Home alone.

This wonderful film describes a naughty child who has many naughty sisters, due to pressure and lack of attention from the mother, who forgets him alone at home and faces thieves and dangers in a funny, intelligent and planning way.

Since my childhood, this film represents a lot to me, whether from the comedic aspect or the intellectual aspect and the development of intelligence.

I found the story completely intricate and a wonderful performance by all the heroes, a creative portrayal that brings you into the atmosphere and makes you feel all the funny, sad and terrifying feelings.

I can say that this is my favorite movie that always makes me fall in love with it and I never get tired of watching it.

Describe your favourite movie essay

My favorite movie is Brave Heart, starring the great Mel Gibson. It was filmed in the nineties, but it is constantly shown on TV. I love this great work very much, there are many wonderful things in it such as, love, sincerity, trust, treachery, dream, sacrifice, ambition and planning.

The film presents many aspects of the qualities that exist in life, whether for the period contemporaneous with the events of the film, or to this day with different titles, names and jobs.

I liked the ending very much and found it realistic and did not have a wide imagination that underestimated the mind of the viewer.

SET 2

LEVEL 1

My Hobby Essay Examples [8]

We all know what hobbies are- you know, those fun activities we love to partake on just to distract ourselves from the stresses of life. Hobbies make us feel rejuvenated and satisfied, even when our lives are going through some disappointing phase. While others have been able to harness the power of their hobbies and converted them to money making ventures, many of us are just contented with the joy and satisfaction we derive from them. Here are few essay examples on My Hobby.

Example 1: Listening to Music

Listening to music has always been my go to activity for all occasions. My love for music can be traced back to when I was a child. There are recorded videos of me as a child becoming hyperactive whenever music was played. I would run to the stereo, turn on the music to full volume and start running around dancing. Anyone who dared touch the sound system would face my wrath. Music was the only thing that could calm me down whenever I cried.

I always have this weird feeling that my destiny is somehow intertwined with music. In my early teenage years, my girlfriends and I would sneak into the garage, where my brother and his band mates kept their musical equipment. Then, we would pluck guitar strings and knock the drums in an effort to compose our favorite songs. I was the lead singer by the way.

Unfortunately for my brother and I, nothing much came out of the practice. It was not just me and my brother, music runs in the whole family. I remember vividly on Friday nights, we used to do karaoke sessions where everyone took turns to sing a song, including our parents. We had these sessions recorded and then sent to our neighbors for analysis.

The winner would get a prize, bought from our individual savings. We saved money on a weekly basis purely for the competition. Needless to say, we were the creepy neighbors next door, but that did not stop me from claiming most of the prizes. Eventually, we outgrew the karaoke sessions and now, I mostly do the listening rather than the singing.

Music gives me the needed refuge whenever I feel like my head is spinning and I just want to shut out everything around me. The good thing about music is that there is music for every occasion and feeling. Whenever I feel depressed, I

listen to sad songs. They guide me and keep me company during those trying moments. Whenever I'm happy, I have a collection of party songs that I dance to for hours to amplify the good feeling. The beauty of music is that it can be incorporated with other hobbies. For instance, I love reading a good book, as nice orchestra music is playing in the background.

Another good thing about music is that it is universal. You do not have to understand what the musician is saying for you enjoy it. If it makes you feel good, then it is worth listening to it. I'm naturally open minded when it comes to music. I have an extensive collection of music that transcends across many genres all over the globe. It wouldn't come as a surprise therefore to find several African songs in my phone that I really rock with and have no idea what they are talking about. However, I connect more with Country and Rock music.

Example 2: Travelling

Travelling is one of those few activities that has a kind of reset button in our lives. You go away for a few days or weeks and come back fresh and ready to take on challenges of life head on. Travelling to many people is a matter of convenience, rather than a recreation activity. They only travel when they have an issue to attend to. Travelling is also not for escapists, as many people tend to believe. I used the word 'escapists' not in the literary sense of the word, but rather to mean people who run away from their problems. Travelling is a hobby like any other.

Most people do not understand how moving from one place to another can be categorized together with fun activities like watching movies, swimming, dancing or drawing. While it has more challenges than other hobbies, it is more adventurous and brings the same level of satisfaction or more for those who love it.

Travelling has always been part of our family tradition. My parents taught us from an early age the value of taking vacations at least once a year. Though they wished we could go for many trips annually, we were not well off financially and my parents had to work creatively with the little they had, sometimes saving the whole year for a single trip. We could have used credit cards, but that would have only plunged us into more financial woes. My father was very strict when it came to finances and he cautioned us against using debt to purchase luxuries. If we wanted something, then it was up to us to find creative and legal ways of making money to purchase it.

Although we didn't have much, money was never an excuse for him. My parents found creative ways to work within the budget. For instance, we would drive to our destination instead of flying and we would carry my mom's homemade meals. Rarely did we use credit cards and if we did, it was a matter of

life and death. Therefore, most of our vacations were during the December holidays. Those were the best days of my life. They were also the days that our family bonds were strengthened. We would fight and quarrel, but in the end we always came back together and worked things out.

From those trips, we learnt more about life than the years we spent at home. What I have just stated may seem farfetched to a person who does not travel much, considering the brevity of vacations, but the reality is vacations never go as planned. Vacations are far from the normal life routines of waking up in the morning, going to work/school and coming back home in the evening. In vacations, there are many risks involved. You are in a foreign land with new people and culture. You have to work with the little funds you have to make the trip as entertaining as possible, but with some level of constraint, so that your family is not stranded.

The beauty of travelling is that you can never really outgrow it. I still do vacations as an adult, although my reasons may be slightly different from my parents. Apart from the obvious reason of having a good time and distracting my mind from the daily hassles, vacations release ‘creative juices’ in me. Working as a writer, I tend to feel burnt out living in the same environment for too long. Sometimes, I need a change of scenery for my artistry to see the light of day. It is a known fact in the literary world that most of the best writers had their best ideas in foreign lands.

I occasionally go for vacations for the sole reason of learning different cultures and interacting with different people to get ideas for my literary work. Furthermore, being away from home really makes you appreciate it even more. The feeling you get after a vacation when you settle down on your couch and just relax is priceless. Travelling makes you appreciate people, their cultures and above all, it makes you appreciate your life and the little you have.

Example 3: Reading Books

I’m passionate about reading. Although I have several hobbies, such as watching movies and hiking, reading books is what resonates well with me. There are many reasons why I love reading. The first reason is it gives me a level of fulfillment. That is, books rejuvenate me. After reading a book, I feel like a whole new being and my outlook in life changes.

The second reason is books make my mind sharp. It is a known fact that books improve our brain muscles. They make us think better and improve our decision making abilities. I find it funny that whenever I utter a clever quote from a book, everyone around me would be dumbfounded.

Furthermore, books are very wide and detailed. It seems like there is a book for anything you can think of. If you want religious books, there is the Bible, the Quran and other spiritual books. There are financial books, inspirational books, cooking books, business-related books, biographies, fictional and non-fictional- the list is endless. Reading is actually among the few hobbies that you learn while doing it.

Due to my widely acquired knowledge from books, I find it easy to jumpstart a conversation with a stranger. I realized that people are more responsive when you engage them in topics they are familiar with. This is where I have an upper hand over other people, because I'm quite knowledgeable in many sphere of life thanks to books.

While most people find reading an upheaval task, reading to me is like a calling. It just comes naturally to me. I have made it my culture to read at least a chapter before I hit the sack. Sometimes I read late into the night, especially during the weekends and I only stop when my head becomes too drowsy to continue. My reading culture is further heightened by my introversion.

Most of my 'me-time' is actually spent on reading. This is how I get my energy back. The outside can be too overwhelming for some of us. Whenever I feel like my energy has been milked dry by the outside world, I just take a few hours of reading to rekindle my spirits again.

Family Culture and Traditions [9]

In our family, there are several cultures and traditions that play a very important role in defining our family values and cultures. These traditions and cultures have been passed to our parents from our grandparents.

The two most vivid cultural patterns that are present in our family have been inherited by our parents from the blending of the culture from my maternal grandparents and my fraternal grandparents.

The cultural patterns

Every Sunday, our father always prepares supper for the family and he makes sure that we eat together as one family.

This tradition has been there in our family for a long period and helps us to bond together as a family unit.

Every night on the eve of my birthday or that of my siblings, our parents usually sneaks into our bed room and fills it with balloons which are stuffed with

money and toys. My father usually writes several bunches of poems and leaves the written poems on our table.

When we wake up in the morning, our mother usually prepares for us a birthday morning cake which we enjoy together as a family as we read the bunch of poems.

Different roles in upholding the traditions

During our Sunday's family dinner/supper, my parents dwells on teaching us on the way forward in regards to behaviour and especially the use of courteous words such as 'please' and 'thank you'. They discourage talking when the mouth is full as well as placing of the elbows on the table.

Also during this time, my parents taught us the developmental skills like literacy skills when story telling during family conversations. During these conversations, my parents would learn more on our attitudes and interests. From these meals, my parents gauge our moods and needs thus helping us solve our problems in the end. My parents oversee the family to ensure that everybody attends to maintain the unity and stability in the family.

The dinner table or birthday party is a significant place for socialization especially for the children. These act as prime setting for socialization regarding the norms and rules on values of the family and the acceptable behaviour. From the nutritional perspective, the children master what is considered acceptable; basically the foods and non-food materials.

From the family dinners and birthdays, my siblings and I have discovered manners and behaviour restraints that the wider world requires. Through conversations of the family during birthday parties and family dinner, we learned of our parents' interests and attitudes in relations to the world. We always help our father to prepare for the family dinner on Sundays. As the eldest, I helped my father prepare the foods and especially the desert and vegetables while my other younger siblings have inevitably prepared the table.

The Purpose

As part of our tradition, the family meal is a symbol of a shared family life. On Sunday's, family supper/dinner acts to bringing us together in the family. This greatly leads to our social well-being at the same time providing predictable structure to our Sundays which is often reassuring especially psychologically. In our family, everybody is involved in this activity and this applies to the buying of food, preparations of food done by my father, making and laying the table, and finally serving of food. With all this participation, it is not a surprise that the provision of this family meal is a classic demonstration that we love and care for

our family stability and unity. From the initial stages of shopping to clearing the table, each member of the family participates in this exercise responsibly and this promotes family solidarity.

The Reflection on the Tradition

Though we have a happy family, we also experience our setbacks. At the end of the day, the members of the family who are already exhausted after a busy day at school or work and probably maybe irascible meet for a family meal or party. Hostility may arise perceived at the dinner/party table maybe because of the injustices and behaviour which is unacceptable. Refusal to eat, complaining about bad cooking or lack of appreciation on whatever served on the table are some of the things that can lead to these conflict at the dinning/party table. Therefore, family dinners and birthday parties have many positive virtues that are sometimes fought with strain and negative consequences which greatly depend on the styles of parenting.

As a socially combining role, when we share a meal during birthdays or Sunday dinner, it brings people together in a network of reciprocal commitments and shared social relationships.

As a tradition routine, Sunday family dinner prepared by my father has been most frequent planned ritual activity in our family which usually takes place in our family house.

The family meal and birthday parties in specific have come to represent the dynamics of the family and overtime generations are complaining on its downfall. In the times of change, family meals and parties represented solidity and perhaps the complaint of the lost family may in fact be the response to feared exchange in the arrangements and frameworks of families.

These family traditions still influence me to date. This is due to the fact that they provide a source of identity on top of strengthening the family bond. I believe that the families that engage in frequent traditional practices report stronger relationship and unity than families that haven't accepted rituals together. I will carry my family traditions in future because I view them as a way of offering comfort and security. This is because our family beliefs and rituals are the cure to the feeling that comes from our world which is fast-paced and ever-changing.

It's relieving to have a few constants in one's life. Am also for the idea that these family traditions teach values and this is achieved by for instance through family stories where the value of education, life-long learning and reading is instilled; and through regular family dinners or parties, the centrality of familial togetherness is instilled. With all this in mind, I will definitely carry these traditions in the future.

LEVEL 2

Different Means of Travelling [10]

Nowadays, there are many different means of travelling which include airplane or ships or trains or buses etc. you can choose your medium by keeping in view your interest, your priorities and of course your budget. Let's have some general over view of different means of travelling

Air travel it is more comfortable, more convenient and of course far quicker than any other method. There is none of the dust and dirt of a railway or car journey, none of the trouble of changing from train to steamer and then to another train. Besides, flying is a thrilling thing.

Travelling by train is slower than by plane, but it has its advantages. With a train you have comfort and pleasure combined. From the comfortable corner seat of a railway carriage you have a splendid view of the whole countryside. If you are hungry, you can have a meal in the dining-car; and if the journey is a long one you can have a wonderful bed in a sleeper. Besides, do you know any place that's more inter-esting than a big railway-station? There is the movement, the excitement, the gaiety of people going away or waiting to meet friends. There are the shouts of the porters as they pull luggage along the platforms to the waiting trains, the crowd at the booking-office getting tickets, the hungry and thirsty ones hurrying to the refreshment rooms before the train starts. No, really!

Travelling by sea is very popular. Large ships and small river boats can visit foreign countries and different places of interest within their own country. A big sea port is no travel as fine as by boat. People love to feel the deck of the boat under my feet, to see the rise and fall of the waves, to feel the fresh sea wind blowing in my face and hear the cry of the sea-gulls. And what excitement, too, there is in coming into the harbor and seeing round us all the ships, steamers, cargo-ships, sailing ships, rowing boats.

What does the motorist see of the country? But the walker leaves the dull broad highway and goes along little winding lanes where cars can't go. He takes mountain paths through the heather; he wanders by the side of quiet lakes and through the shade of woods. He sees the real country, the wild flowers, the young birds in their nests, the deer in the forest; he feels the quietness and calm of nature.

And besides, you are saving your railway fare travelling on foot No one can deny that walking is the cheapest method of travelling,

As for me, I prefer travelling by car. I think it's very convenient. You needn't reserve tour tickets. You needn't carry heavy suitcases. You can stop wherever you wish, and spend at any place as much time as you like.

SET 3**LEVEL 2****Top 10 Benefits and Disadvantages of Online Shopping [11]*****10 Benefits of Shopping Online***

Shopping online has many benefits. Here are ten of the most important advantages.

1. Convenience

Convenience is the biggest perk. Where else can you comfortably shop at midnight while in your pajamas? There are no lines to wait in or cashiers to track down to help you with your purchases, and you can do your shopping in minutes.

Online shops give us the opportunity to shop 24/7 and also reward us with a 'no pollution' shopping experience. There is no better place to buy informational products like e-books, which are available to you instantly as soon as the payment goes through. Downloadable items purchased online eliminate the need for any kind of physical material at all, as well, which helps the environment!

2. Better Prices

Cheap deals and better prices are available online, because products come to you direct from the manufacturer or seller without involving middlemen. Plus, it's easier to compare prices and find a better deal. Many online sites offer discount coupons and rebates, as well.

Not only are prices better, but you can save on tax as well since online shops are only required to collect a sales tax if they have a physical location in your state. Factor in the saved expense of gas and parking, and you have saved yourself a lot of money!

3. More Variety

The choices online are amazing. You can find almost any brand or item you're looking for. You can get in on the latest international trends without spending money on airfare. You can shop from retailers in other parts of the state, country, or even the world instead of being limited to your own geography. A far greater selection of colors and sizes than you will find locally are at your disposal.

Plus, the stock is much more plentiful, so you'll always be able to find your size and color. Some online shops even accept orders for out-of-stock items and ship when they come in.

4. You Can Send Gifts More Easily

Sending gifts to relatives and friends is easy, no matter where they are. All the packaging and shipping are done for you. Oftentimes, they'll even gift wrap it for you! Now, there is no need to make distance an excuse for not sending a gift on occasions like birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and so forth.

5. More Control

Many times, when we opt for conventional shopping, we tend to spend a lot more than planned and end up buying items that aren't exactly what we wanted (but we can't find anything better in the store). Online, you don't have to let the store's inventory dictate what you buy, and you can get exactly what you want and need.

6. Easy Price Comparisons

Comparing and researching products and their prices is so much easier online. If you're shopping for appliances, for example, you can find consumer reviews and product comparisons for all the options on the market, with links to the best prices. We can research firsthand experience, ratings, and reviews for most products and retailers.

7. No Crowds

If you are like me, you hate crowds when you're shopping. Especially during holidays, festivals, or on weekends, they can be such a huge headache. Also, being crushed in the crowds of shoppers sometimes makes us feel rushed or hurried. You don't have to battle for a parking place. All of these problems can be avoided when you shop online.

8. No Pressure

Oftentimes when we're out shopping, we end up buying things that we don't really need, all because shopkeepers pressure us or use their selling skills to compel us to make these purchases.

9. You Can Buy Used or Damaged Items at Lower Prices

The marketplace on the internet gives us access to listings of old or damaged items at rock-bottom prices. Also, if we want to buy antiques, there's no better place to find great ones.

10. Discreet Purchases Are Easier

Some things are better done in the privacy of your home. Online shops are best for discreet purchases of things like adult toys, sexy lingerie, and so on. This enables me to purchase undergarments and lingerie without embarrassment or any paranoia that there are people watching or judging me.

10 Disadvantages of Online Shopping

Online shopping comes with disadvantages; here are ten of the most problematic elements of shopping on the internet.

1. Negative Environmental Impact of Packaging and Gas

Having your purchase packed in several layers of plastic and cardboard packaging and delivered right to your front door is good for you but not so great for the environment. Even if you try to recycle the cardboard, you're creating unnecessary waste by shopping online.

2. Shipping Problems and Delays

Even the biggest and best shipping companies and online retailers have their bad days, so there's no way to ensure that you'll get your hands on your purchase in time unless you pick it up from a store. Items get lost, detoured, damaged, or delivered to the wrong address more often than you can imagine.

3. Risk of Fraud

If you're shopping online, there's a larger risk of fraud: credit card scams, phishing, hacking, identity theft, counterfeit products, bogus websites, and other scams are common.

4. Spending Too Much Time Online

Especially if your job requires that you look at a computer all day, you might get burnt out on all that screen time. Shopping online can turn into a marathon of scrolling and clicking down rabbit holes, and before you know it, you've been online for most of the day. The internet is a nice place to visit, but you probably don't want to live there.

5. Less Contact With the Community

If you do all your business online, you'll never have to leave your home. This might be great for a while, but sometimes, you might want to go outside, breathe some fresh air, get a change of scenery, talk to real people, participate in

your community, and just be a part of the crowd. Sometimes, a computer monitor can't compete with a real human connection.

6. You Don't Know Exactly What You're Getting

Unless you are intimately familiar with a brand or product, buying online requires a leap of faith . . . one that doesn't always end in your favor. Sizes are often imprecise. You can't determine texture, fabric, fit, cut, quality, heft, or durability just by looking at a photo. Products that looked great might feel chintzy, awkward, or cheap when you hold them in your hands.

7. Returns Can Be Complicated

Some sellers make the process breezy, but many make it extra hard for you to return their merchandise or get a refund. Many times, you can't get reimbursed for any shipping costs.

Labeling, packaging, shipping, tracking, and filling out all the proper forms are a hassle you can avoid if you buy in person (and if you hand-select your merchandise, you won't need to return things so often).

8. Unfriendly, Scammy, or Complicated Websites

Some sites require that you join their mailing list and make it impossible to unsubscribe. Some sell your email address to others, so your email is full of ads. Sometimes, sites don't offer good or accurate descriptions of the goods, or you just can't figure out how to purchase or return an item or speak to customer service.

9. No Sales Assistance

In a store, there's usually someone to help you but online, you're on your own. If you're confused or have questions, it's just too bad for you. You might have to make blind purchases and mistakes you'll regret later because there was no one to talk to.

10. No Support for Local Retailers

If everyone started doing all their shopping online, all the local stores would go out of business. When all the stores in town are gone, we'll have to drive further and further away to shop at a real store.

Many people and places have already experienced the negative and sometimes devastating impacts of e-commerce which take away jobs and devastate local economies.

When Learning Is Easy: My Experience in English [12]

Introduction

At first it seems obvious that the knowledge of a foreign language, especially English, which is extremely widespread nowadays, is essential for everyone. However, when it came to the actual process of learning, I realized that it took a great effort to study the language. Nevertheless, with the help of efficient studying plan and sufficient experience, I managed to prove that learning English is much easier than one might expect.

Main body

One of the issues that made the studying process extremely complicated and bothered me to absorb new knowledge was the fact that English was my second language. Thus, I had no previous experience of learning languages and did not know where or what to start from. In addition, I could not imagine how to switch from my native language to the foreign one. Because of the above-mentioned problem, I could not associate the English words with their meaning, which caused further confusion. In addition, the number of meanings that a single word could have in the English language made me feel quite puzzled, since I could not draw any parallels with the meanings that the given word had in my native language, which also caused quite a problem.

Since at first my success in English was barely noticeable and I made a lot of mistakes, especially when talking in English (for instance, I could easily confuse such words as “affect” and “effect”), I decided to take up a special English class, where I could train my skills in speaking the English language correctly. I must admit that at first I felt quite embarrassed and hesitated to ask questions, but further on, I started making progress.

After several weeks of training, I started realizing that I stopped confusing certain words. Moreover, I figured out the way in which I could learn new words faster and more efficiently. To study the new terms and their meaning in my native language, I put each phrase or word down in my vocabulary list and then tried making at least three sentences with each of the newly learned words.

It is worth mentioning that having an English class was great fun, since all the students were involved in each activity. While some of the tasks were designed for each student specifically, the others demanded the participation of a group of students or even an entire class, which made us learn on each other’s mistakes and remember the material several times faster than we would do in a typical class environment.

Among the rest of the assignments that we were supposed to complete, the one that I remembered best was writing an essay in a group of three. After each of us got a

topic to write an essay on, we started figuring out the best way to write the papers to combine them into a single writing. In the end, our team came up with a series of three short essays which combined well and were really fun to write together.

Soon I began to realize that my English skills started to improve even faster, especially the ones concerning the spoken language. I learned a lot of synonyms which helped me to make my speech more eloquent, and a number of standard phrases which people use in certain situations, not to get confused when someone asks what time is it and in the similar situations. Working on my conversational English, I started feeling more certain and stopped fearing to make a mistake. Even though the changes were not instant and it took quite a while for me to learn the basic vocabulary, as well as to understand the spoken language, I realized that I am still able of learning English.

With the help of the classes, I managed to learn a lot about the English grammar and, which is the most important, understand how it actually works. Now that I know the principles of the English grammar, I will be able to deal even with the most complicated assignments and use all kinds of styles, starting with the scholar one and up to the conversational English, which is also quite hard, mostly because of the vocabulary.

However, it is also worth mentioning that the hardest part was the one concerning the stylistic differences. Since English was my second language, it was hard to conceive the difference between seemingly similar words straightaway.

Conclusion

At present, it is obvious that I have not reached my top yet and there is a lot of room for further development. I still have to work hard on my pronunciation, on the grammatical issues and on the vocabulary. In addition, I would like to develop my own writing style. However, with the help of practicing and using various learning methods to train difficult rules, as well as working on the language specifics with the help of various exercises, I hope to speak someday as if English was my naïve tongue.

Importance of English Language Essay [13]

500 Words Importance of English Language Essay

The English Language is becoming more and more common in the world. As a result, increasingly people are dedicating time to study English as their second language. In fact, many countries include it in their school syllabus to teach children this language from a young age. However, the true value of this language is that it helps remove many barriers from our life. Whether it is to find a new job or travel the

world. In other words, it helps to progress in life both on a personal and professional level. Thus, the Importance of English Language Essay will help you understand all about it.

Importance of English Language

Language is our major means of communication; it is how we share our thoughts with others. A language's secondary purpose is to convey someone's sentiments, emotions, or attitudes. English is one such language in the world that satisfies both the above purposes. English has been regarded as the first global Lingua Franca. It has become part and parcel of almost every existing field. We use it as the international language to communicate in many fields ranging from business to entertainment.

Many countries teach and encourage youngsters to acquire English as a second language. Even in nations where English is not an official language, many science and engineering curriculum are written in English.

English abilities will most certainly aid you in any business endeavours you choose to pursue. Many large corporations will only hire professional employees after determining whether or not they speak good English. Given the language's prominence, English language classes will be advantageous to you if you want to work for a multinational organization and will teach you the communication skills needed to network with professionals in your area or enhance your career.

The English Language opens an ocean of career opportunities to those who speak this language anywhere in the world. Similarly, it has turned into an inevitable requirement for various fields and professions like medicine, computing and more.

In the fast-evolving world, it is essential to have a common language that we can understand to make the best use of the data and information available. As a result, the English Language has become a storehouse of various knowledge ranging from social to political fields.

Reasons to Learn the English Language

As the importance of the English Language is clear now, we move on to why we must learn the English Language. First of all, it is a global language. It is so common that one out of five people can speak or understand this language.

Further, learning the English Language can help in getting a job easily. As it has become the language of many fields, it automatically increases the chances of landing a good job in a good company.

In addition, it helps with meeting new people. As it is the official language of 53 countries, learning it helps to break the language barriers. Most importantly, it is also the language of the Internet.

Another important reason to learn this language is that it makes travelling easier. Being a widely used language globally, it will help you connect with people easily. Similarly, it is also essential in the world of business.

It does not matter whether you are an employee or employer, it benefits everyone. Students who wish to study abroad must definitely study this language. Many countries use their schools and universities. So, it can offer a good opportunity for students.

Why and where do we need the English language?

- **Use of English on the Internet** – Because of the tremendous rise of information technology, particularly the internet, English is the language of choice for Internet users. The internet has also played an important role in promoting and spreading the English language throughout the world, as more and more people are exposed to it, and English has also become the language of the internet.

- **Use of English in Education** – English has become one of the majorly used languages to understand, learn and explain concepts from various fields of knowledge. The majority of instructional tools, materials, and texts are written in English. The global educational systems at colleges all over the world need English as a foreign language.

- **Use of English for Travel purposes** – As we all know, English has been named as the official language of 53 countries and over 400 million people in the world speak English, the English language comes in handy for communicating with everyone when anyone travels around the world be it for tourism, job opportunity, settlement, casual visits, etc.

- **Use of English for Communication** – The most important function of a language is to allow people to communicate effectively. For many years, English has been the most widely known and valued language on the planet. In other words, English becomes an efficient tool for communicating with people all over the world.

Conclusion of Importance of English Language Essay

We use the English Language in most of our international communications. While it is not the most spoken language in the world, 53 countries have named it their official language. Moreover, about 400 million people globally use it as their first language. Thus, being the most common second language in the world, it will be beneficial to learn this language to open doors to new opportunities.

СПИСОК ДЖЕРЕЛ ІНФОРМАЦІЇ

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